

REMARKS

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endriz (U.S. Patent 5,793,783) in view of Marchant et al. (U.S. Patent 6,353,502).

Claims 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endriz in view of Marchant et al., and further in view of D'Heureuse et al. (U.S. Patent 6,318,264).

Claim Objections and Rejections

Claim 1 has now been amended to recite the limitations of allowable claim 3. Claims 2, 6, 7, 8 and 10 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis. Claims 2 and 4 to 14 all now depend from claim 1, and withdrawal of the rejections and objections to these claims is respectfully requested.

New Claims

New claims 15 to 20 correspond to indicated allowable claims 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, respectively, in independent form.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: 

William C. Gehris

Reg. No. 38,156

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights

485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor

New York, New York 10018

(212) 736-1940